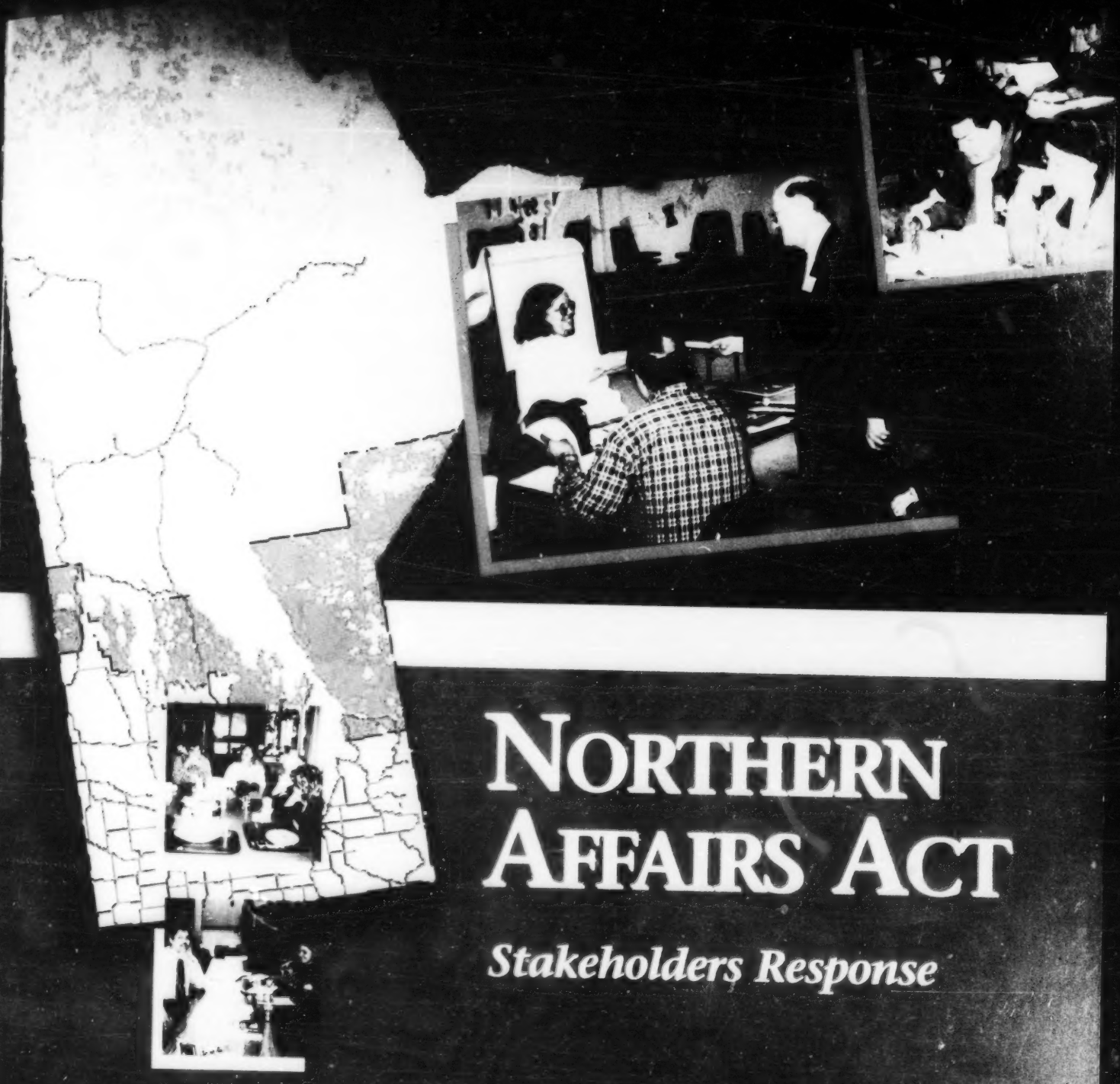

NORTHERN AFFAIRS ACT

Stakeholders Response

Manitoba
Aboriginal and
Northern Affairs

Northern Affairs Act Review

"STAKEHOLDERS RESPONSE"

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Summary of Stakeholder Responses

This summary includes the questions that were asked in the survey attached to the Consultation Workbook, and the responses to those questions, as developed by consensus at the Focus Group meeting held on June 27th and 28th, 2001.

In reaching consensus, the Focus Group considered the comments received from stakeholders through responses to the survey and group discussions at area meetings. Those comments, which are included in the "You Said ..." section of this report, were integral to the consensus-building process.

The consensus statements shown below which, through the consultative process are reflective of stakeholder responses generally, are intended to establish a framework for the development of a legislative proposal and, ultimately, the introduction of a new Act.

Box A – Types of communities

1. Should there be different types of communities, or should they all be structured the same?

There should continue to be different types of communities because, due to differences in size, location, and degree of development, they cannot all be considered the same.

2. If there should be different types, are these the right ones?

The existing types four community types could be maintained with more emphasis on fiscal management capacity at the local level.

3. If not, what do you think they should be?

See question 2.

Box B – Criteria to recognize a community

1. Do you think the criteria to recognize a community should be included in the Act?

The Act should clearly identify criteria for recognition of a new community, but existing communities should not be affected.

2. Should the criteria include assessment or other measures, or should they be strictly population based?

The criteria factors should include permanent population, property assessment and others, subject to review by a board established by the Minister, and including elected representatives from Northern Affiars community councils, and NACC..

Box C –Recognition of a community

1. Who should be involved in the decision to recognize a new community?

□ Community residents □ A review board

□ Neighboring communities □ (Other) _____(explain)

There should be broad input to the decision to recognize a new community, through a committee consisting of residents of the area, other elected community council members, NACC representaiton, and government officials.

2. Is a government regulation sufficient recognition of the establishment of a community?

Communities should be established by government regulation.

Box D - Dissolution of a community

1. What should be the criteria to dissolve a community?

A community should be dissolved when it is no longer functional, or the residents request.

Box E – Community Boundaries

1. What concerns do you have about community boundaries?

- ***Boundaries should be clearly defined and legally recognized.***
- ***There should continue to be a defined development zone around each community.***
- ***Community councils should have authority over development and co-management of resources within the zone.***

Box F – Election process

1. Is the 3-year term sufficient?

The council term should be three years, with elections held in October consistent with other local government elections.

2. Should council members continue to have staggered terms, or should all terms expire at the same time?

There should be staggered terms to allow for continuity on council, so that one-half the council seats would be contested at each election.

3. Should non-resident property owners be allowed to vote for council members?

- ***Only residents should be allowed to vote for council elections.***
- ***Non-resident property owners should not be allowed to vote for members of Council.***

4. Should council have authority to appoint the community election officials?

- ***Councils should have the authority to appoint election officers.***
- ***Appointment of election officials should be subject to approval of the Minister.***

Box G – Council remuneration

1. Is an honorarium a fair way of recognizing the work done by council members?

An honorarium is a fair way of recognizing work done by members of council.

2. Should the amount of honorarium be set by council, or prescribed in the Act?

The amount of honorarium should be set by Council, within limits prescribed in a regulation.

3. Do you have any other suggestions?

Councils should develop guidelines for payment of honoraria, taking into account type of services provided and workload.

Box H – Council members' authority and responsibility

1. Are there additional areas of authority council members should have?

- ***Councils should have the authority and resources to enforce by-laws which they enact.***

- ***Councils should have authority respecting any activity, in the community and its boundary, affecting community infrastructure and resources.***

2. Should there be additional responsibilities for council members?

Councils should be responsible for enforcement of by-laws providing they have the means and resources to do so.

3. Should there be further limitations on the authority of council members?

There should be no further limitations on authority of council members.

Box I – Administrative structure

1. Should there be different administrative arrangements for different types of communities?

- ***There should continue to be a basic administrative program but recognizing different administrative levels for different types of communities***

- ***There should be consistent accounting and financial reporting practices for all communities.***

2. If so, are the administrative arrangements satisfactory, or should there be other arrangements?

The current administrative arrangements are satisfactory.

Box J – Community budget process

1. Do you feel residents should have more participation in the budget process?

Residents should have more input to the budget process, through public meetings.

2. How often should council hold public meetings to discuss the budget and other financial matters?

Councils should hold public meetings quarterly for the discussion of the budget and other financial matters.

Box K – Revenue sources for local government operations

1. Are the current revenue sources about right?

It was agreed that more resources are required from the province.

2. If not, how should they be changed?

The Department of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs should be required annually to review and ensure the adequacy of its funding commitment to northern communities with regard to:

- ***Consumer price index***
- ***Health and safety, e.g. water plants***
- ***Impact of changes in environmental regulations***
- ***Other influences on local government spending.***

3. Do you think your community could raise more monies for community services by additional special taxes, user fees, or other means?

Not all communities are capable of raising more revenues by taxes and user fees. The provincial government should allow northern communities to take advantage of new opportunities by sharing in resource revenues.

4. Do you think each community council should be able to set its own level of taxation by increasing or decreasing the mill rate?

No consensus was reached on this statement.

Box L – Services provided by local government

1. Are there other municipal services, not in the list, that you feel should be delivered by the community?

Communities should be allowed to deliver economic development services with more health and social programs, such as ambulance services and housing.

2. Are there services, which you would suggest be removed from this list?

No services should be removed from the list.

3. Should there be different services for different communities?

There should not be different services ; there could, however, be different levels of services based on needs.

4. Are there other non-municipal services, which you feel your community should be involved with?

Communities should be involved with economic development, housing, and administration of health and social service programs.

Box M – Economic Development

1. In your opinion, how should community councils be involved with economic development?

Community councils should be able to become involved in economic development by the department providing resources for:

- ***Forming community development corporations;***
- ***Hiring economic development officers;***
- ***Participation in regional development initiatives.***

Box N – Conflict

1. In your opinion, what sorts of circumstances may be considered a conflict of interest?

Conflict of interest could arise through a member of council receiving direct benefit from:

- ***Hiring practices;***
- ***Awarding of contracts;***
- ***Spending decisions.***

2. Should the rules of conflict of interest be included in the Act?

Rules or guidelines on conflict of interest should be set out in a supporting document.

Box O – Other issues

What other issues would you like to have considered as part of this review?

There are additional areas, which may be beyond the scope of this review, which the Department should review with community input. Such as:

- *Bill C31 respecting elections;*
- *Department responsibility for training councils, by-law training, training regarding property taxation, and education respecting other legislaiton affecting the communities.*
- *More provincial dollars, both Operation & Maintenance, and Capital.*
- *Enforcement and collection of user charges from residents and neighbouring communities*
- *VLT revenues should be considered as locally generated revenues.*

The Northern Affairs Act Review Process

To Date

- **Who was involved or consulted?**
  - ❖ Community councils were asked for comment;
  - ❖ Individual community members were encouraged to participate through using the workbook and submitting a survey reply;
  - ❖ Councils selected persons to represent the community interests at the area meetings;
  - ❖ Four area meetings were held for council members to discuss the information in the workbook. 75% of the communities sent representatives to the meetings.
  - ❖ Area meetings selected persons to be stakeholders for the focus group discussions;
  - ❖ NACC executive members attended respective area meetings.
  - ❖ A radio interview with the Review Facilitator, Mr. Roger Dennis, the Deputy Minister, Mr. Oliver Boulette and the Northern Association of Community Councils President , Mr. Sonny Klyne was held by Native Communications Incorporated in Thompson.
  - ❖ Spot radio announcements were aired for several weeks on Native Communications Incorporated (NCI) to encourage listeners to obtain copies of the workbook and submit their thoughts.
  - ❖ Other individuals or groups participated through completion of the survey or submission of written comments.
  - ❖ All the information from the area meetings was summarized and returned to the communities and stakeholders for their review.

Survey Responses Received to date			
Area Meetings	Community Councils	Individuals	Organizations
4 75% of councils participated	1	13	1

Participants at area meetings

Aghaming	Mr. Bob Bull, Contact Person	Berens River	Mr. Henry McKay
Dallas/Red Rose	Mayor Barbara Marcyniuk Councillor Frank Swark	Dauphin River	Mayor Helgi Einarsson Councillor (Ms) Dale Einarsson Clerk Helen Adamson
Homebrook-Peonan Point	Clerk Ruth Zahorodny	Island Lake	Councillor Jerry Bilewitch Clerk Margaret Wastasecoot
Loon Straits	Mr. Bob Oddleifson, Contact Person Mr. Edgar Bruce	Manigotagan	Mayor Greg Wood
Pine Dock	Mayor Margaret Johnston Clerk Ashley Monkman	Seymourville	Mayor Valdie Seymour Councillor Ken Ellison
Barrows	Mayor Alfred Hanson Councillor Herman Cook	Camperville	Mayor Joseph "Sonny" Klyne Mr. Kevin Mekish
Duck Bay	Mayor Harold Delaronde Councillor Russell McKay	Mallard	Mayor William Lacquette Councillor Anne Lacquette Councillor Adrian Lacquette
Pelican Rapids	Mayor Rose Alice Campeau Councillor Ed Campeau	Red Deer Lake	Mayor Brisine Cook Councillor Irene Chamberlain Councillor Grace Monych
Waterhen	Mr. Roy Chartrand	Cormorant	Mayor Ken Ducharme Councillor Tony Genaille
Easterville	Councillor Walter Umpherville	Moose Lake	Mayor Charles Fosseneuve Councillor Mabel Cook
Sherridon	Councillor Lisa Patterson	Brochet	Mayor Lawrence Merasty Councillor Marvin Cook
Cross Lake	Mayor Clarence Smith	Gods Lake Narrows	Clerk Marie Bland
Ilford	Mayor Jim Chornoby	Nelson House	Mayor Bella Leonard Councillor Bertha Spence
Norway House	Mayor Elizabeth Isbister Administrator Lloyd Flett	Pikwitonei	Mayor Warren Pagee
South Indian Lake	Councillor Flora Thomas Ms. Shelley Tasse	Thicket Portage	Mayor Bob McClaverty Councillor Ricky Pronteau
Wabowden	Mayor Reg Meade Councillor Walter Becker	Northern Association of Community Councils	President Sonny Klyne Vice-president Helgi Einarsson Vice-president Norman Lacquette Vice-president Reg Meade

- A Focus Group meeting was held June 27& 28, 2001 to prepare consensus statements based on the responses recevied from the surveys and the area meetings.

Participants in the focus group discussions were:

Mr. Bob Bull, Contact Person
Aghaming

Mayor Greg Wood
Manigotagan

Councillor Ken Ellison
Seymourville

Mayor Alfred Hanson
Barrows

Councillor Mabel Cook
Moose Lake

Clerk Brian Cook
Moose Lake

Mayor Bella Leonard
Nelson House

Helgi Einarsson, NACC

Joseph "Sonny" Klyne, NACC

Norman Lacquette, NACC

Reg Meade, NACC

Mayor Jim Chomoby

Mayor Bob McClaverty

Next Steps

- **Report**

  - This Stakeholders Responses document, including comments as a result of the area meetings, the surveys and focus group discussion and all relevant information from the review process will be submitted to the NACC Annual Conference for confirmation of consensus.

  - A report will then be presented to the Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs. The Minister, after discussion with his colleagues, may then issue instructions to have legislative drafting of:
    - revisions to the Act;
    - a whole new Act; or
    - some other approach carried out to update the legislation.

- **The Review Committee.**

  - The Department of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs engaged the services of Mr. Roger Dennis as facilitator to oversee the working committee for the consultation process. Mr. Dennis is retired from the former department of Rural Development.

  - The Northern Association of Community Councils is a partner in both the consultation process and the working committee, through representation by President Joseph "Sonny" Klyne.

  - Department staff provides support to the facilitator and is part of the working committee.

- **How long will it take?**

  The total consultation and legislative process could take up to 18 months. It is presently planned to complete:

  - Receipt of workbook surveys until the NACC Conference in August 2001. As these are received, the responses will be consolidated into the working documents.
  - Preparation of Stakeholders Responses document for circulation to community councils by 20 July, 2001
  - Review of Stakeholders Responses document at NACC conference, August 2001
  - Final report for presentation to the Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs by the end of September, 2001

- **What is the process for bringing in a new Act? (legislative instructions, drafting, committee review, introduction of Bill, passage and proclamation, etc.)**

  - The Minister, after reviewing the report, and consulting with Cabinet, gives direction respecting new legislation.
  - Legislative drafting is requested to prepare the Bill for the Legislature.
  - The Bill is given 1st and 2nd readings in the Legislature and sent for Legislative Committee review. Individuals and organizations may make presentations to the Committee respecting the Bill.
  - The Committee recommends final reading with or without amendments.
  - The Bill is given 3rd reading in the Legislature, receives Royal Assent by the Lieutenant Governor, and becomes law.

You Said ...

Box A – Types of communities

1. Should there be different types of communities, or should they all be structured the same?

- Should be different types of communities. Factors are size, location, and population.
- Allow for different types of structures. Must be flexible, need to address needs, re treaty, Metis, other.
- Leave as is
- Each community is unique – unable to decide on how to change, should be a change but what?
- Physical location will determine the type of makeup of the community (Factors, ie remoteness, all-weather road access, seasonal access etc)
- All communities should be structured the same according to population. Allowing flexibility for individual differences in geography – 4 types at present
- I feel there should be different types of communities to fit the specific needs of each particular community
- They should be the same
- The communities are all different
- Although communities should be somewhat consistent in their structure, there needs to be some flexibility to allow for possible differences due to geography, employment etc.
- If the population of the community is greater than 50, they should all be structured the same.
- Should all be structured the same as they fall under the NA act.
- Structure has nothing to do with the size of the community or location.
- What might be considered is what level of development the community is at and where their location is and how the surrounding municipalities interact with them.
- This would mean that communities could be typed [classified] as isolated communities, semi-isolated communities and communities that have all-weather roads, and easier access to both government departments and neighbouring communities.
- They should be structured all the same, cost savings.
- I feel that all the communities should not be structured the same, leave as they are, based on population, budget & administration.

Summary ...

- ***Communities are different due to population, location, ethnic background, and development stage.***
- ***Community structure needs to reflect these differences.***
- ***Within the differences, there needs to be a BASIC structure.***
- ***There may be a need for additional structures besides the existing four types.***
- ***The population level of 50 persons may be a dividing line for communities.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

There should continue to be different types of communities because, due to differences in size, location, and degree of development, they cannot all be considered the same.

Box A – Types of communities

2. If there should be different types, are these the right ones?

Summary ...

- ***These are the right types, but some change may be required.***
- ***Some contact communities might be considered for "local committees"***
- ***Type of structure affects funding implications. Small communities may be suffering.***
- ***More flexibility required.***
- ***Reporting requirements should be the same regardless of type/size.***

- Contact community [should be] changed to local committee with funding control. Monies could be held in trust but should be reviewed and or changed by committee.
- Yes
- Every community is different so what may be right for one not necessarily right for another.
- Yes, but change is required
- Same as above
- Yes
- The difference is some communities have more than others do, ie. Money, infrastructure, more training, this is especially true if you are a larger community. I feel small communities get what is left over.
- Those types listed allow certain amount of flexibility. I would like to see an additional one between self-administration where you have demonstrated that you can manage your community responsibility and a self-reliant status. What happened to block funding?
- Reporting requirements should be similar whether the population is 100 or a 1000.
- No, things always look better on the outside than looking in.
- Yes these are the right ones

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The existing types four community types could be maintained with more emphasis on fiscal management capacity at the local level.

You Said ...

Box A – Types of communities

3. If not, what do you think they should be?

- Eliminate local contact, use the three remaining types of structure
- Not applicable [because answer to previous question indicated no change]
- [Most of the communities should incorporate, but] incorporate into what ?
- Every community is different in their own way
- Not applicable [because previous answer was types were ok]
- Presently there is contact, self-administration, self-reliance & incorporated – depending on where the community is.
- Each community should be the ones to decide on which type they want.
- I think a self-administration community such as ... should move towards what was previously referred to as block-funding and then move towards a self-reliant status.
- Audits and standards of service should determine a community's status.
- Communities with 50 or more population should be self-administered by mayor and council. Small communities should amalgamate with a larger community or become contact status.

Summary ...

- ***Contact status not useful.***
- ***Community should have more input into decision on type of community.***
- ***There should be provision for block-funding level***
- ***Audits and services should determine community type***
- ***Some communities should consider amalgamation***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

See question 2.

Box B – Criteria to recognize a community

1. Do you think the criteria to recognize a community should be included in the Act?

Summary ...

- ***Current criteria are not well known.***
- ***Criteria should consider population, effect on nearby communities, traditional land use, property assessment.***
- ***There needs to be a review board of some kind***
- ***Criteria for incorporation not related to boundary issues.***
- ***Should be a minimum population level.***
- ***Everyone does not recognize existing boundaries.***
- ***Criteria should be in the Act.***

- Government has to establish and set criteria in order to adequately answer this question.
- There should be criteria, e.g. population, effect on neighbouring communities, First Nations and municipalities. Consider current and traditional land use, environmental impact, property assessment and have a review board.
- Yes, include in the Act
- Everyone] should recognize existing Boundaries.
- What was the criteria used to establish existing communities? Did the department establish criteria? – population, property/ personal business assessment, community area?
- Yes
- Yes, included in the Act
- Yes it should be, and followed!
- I think criteria should be established by a forum of delegates as to what makes a community and then these findings be incorporated into the act.
- Recognition of a community should be based on census information & this statement with a minimum base should be in the act.
- All communities should be under the municipal act
- According to the material provided, the government has not set any criteria to establish a community. your question implies that some kind of criteria now exist, did the department develop a criteria for recognizing a community? If so is there a copy available for review.
- The present criteria for a community to become incorporated is illogical. For 15 individuals to ask the Minister to be incorporated doesn't make sense. A proper progressive method has to be established before incorporation can be considered.
- If a criteria does exist, assessment and other measures may be considered if a community is to move into incorporation. If the criteria to become a community is to remain at the size of its population, then a proposed minimum could be considered. This does not mean that communities under the minimum would be excluded from any Northern Affairs services, but could be classified as a community without status.
- Yes
- No, but I think there should be some form of committee established for reviewing with their own criteria.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The Act should clearly identify criteria for recognition of a new community, but existing communities should not be affected.

You Said ...

Box B – Criteria to recognize a community

2. Should the criteria include assessment or other measures, or should they be strictly population based?

- We don't know what the existing criteria is. Should not be strictly population based. Who should be involved with the setting of criteria? Impact on existing communities must be taken into consideration. Assessment should not be a critical deciding factor.
- How do we limit or control population, land use, development?
- Should include property assessment and population
- Cottages are not part of community but should be assessed.
- Yes
- No – not population base, as every community should have same living standard.
- Population based
- If one community has 50 population and another 20, why should the 20 population be restricted to outside toilets – should be same services
- The criteria should definitely include other measures – such as land base, tax assessment.
- It should be population based. (x4)
- Assessment should be done for future population.
- Assessment and population (x3)
- I believe that a variety of individuals should be involved in setting criteria

Summary ...

- ***Criteria should include a variety of factors, including population, property assessment, services.***
- ***Criteria should provide a land base***
- ***Cottage areas should be assessed, even though not part of a community.***
- ***Should be a board of some kind involved.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The criteria factors should include permanent population, property assessment and others, subject to review by a board established by the Minister, and including elected representatives from Northern Affiars community councils, and NACC.

Box C –Recognition of a community

3. Who should be involved in the decision to recognize a new community?

x Community residents x A review board

x Neighboring communities □ (Other) _____(explain)

Summary...

- ***A review board consisting of community residents and representatives from the new community, neighbouring communities, government departments, as well as the Minister.***
- ***Needs to be a collective approach, not just the Minister's decision***

- New community representatives, Existing, neighbouring community representatives.
- A review board – impartial and unbiased. Include the Minister's office and other government departments.
- a review board comprised of community councils
- community input, not just the minister.
- Community residents – departments working collectively with residents – neighbouring communities
- Community residents
- All above should be involved in recognizing a new community
- Review board
- Community Residents – Review Board – Northern Affairs Minister
- Community Residents
- Government
- Not just a minister
- The community residents and the department should work collectively on what needs to be established and what is needed to be accomplished to make it eligible to become a community.
- The information package you provided to us states, that the Minister establishes a community on his own. Are you suggesting that the Department of northern Affairs have no input in this decision? If senior bureaucrats or outside influences are looked for, what is the present method used?
- Minister
- NACC, A review board made up of all the above plus NACC rep

The Consensus is...

There should be broad input to the decision to recognize a new community, through a committee consisting of residents of the area, other elected community council members, NACC representaiton, and government officials.

You Said ...

Box C –Recognition of a community

4. Is a government regulation sufficient recognition of the establishment of a community?

- Upon completion of above process, government regulation should be sufficient.

- The regulation should be changed to actually form part of the act.

- Order in council [required] for debate to take place on creation of a community.
- Regulation sufficient

- No.
- An act of the legislature should be the means of establishing a new community.

- Recognized by the Province
- Yes, it should be government regulation
- Community residents input with Minister needed
- Decision should be by residents of community and government under municipal act to see if criteria warrants to be a community.
- Yes, established guidelines are set out
- Should be by regulation, criteria and review board.

Summary ...

- ***Decision should involve a number of persons (see above).***

- ***Issue is recognition of the regulation (or Act) by others, such as other departments***

The CONSENSUS IS...

Communities should be established by government regulation.

Box D - Dissolution of a community

1. What should be the criteria to dissolve a community?

Summary ...

- ***Consultation and review board recommended.***
- ***When community fails [to continue] to meet criteria.***
- ***Misuse of powers, misappropriation of funds.***
- ***When council not carrying out their responsibilities, looking after their people.***
- ***Consider amalgamation before dissolution.***

- Consultation with existing communities and with neighbouring communities. Have review board as above. Approval of cabinet
- When community fails to meet criteria in boxes B/C. within 5 years must be reviewed by a review committee (same as recognition)
- Same process as question C
- Community involvement plus a review board
- Order in Council to generate debate - community consultation prior to possible order – process – documentation, evaluation process, alternative presentations, referendum/election process, community forum
- Misuse of power, misappropriation of funds.
- Council & community residents should have right to decide
- Community should be dissolved when no one is left.
- If it's not functional.
- The council is not looking after their people and misusing funds. Have proper people come in and help before taking away and dissolving.
- Community involvement
- Discussion with members of community involved, not just being told so by the department.
- Population
- A certain population must be maintained or dissolve, levels of services & ability to maintain – if too small –dissolve, nearness to another community – cost of services conflict.
- If community can not sustain itself on a tax basis and the population is 10 then it should amalgamate or be dissolved.
- The most obvious is misuse of powers {NA Act 20(1)}.
- Dissolution for other reasons {NA Act 20(2)}
- If all the residents move away.
- If a [illegible]munity could be amalgamated with an adjacent community and [illegible]would allow the two communities to work together.
- The [illegible]ister should still obtain approval of cabinet
- Review board with criteria, then Cabinet approval

The CONSENSUS IS ...

A community should be dissolved when it is no longer functional, or the residents request.

You Said ...

Box E – Community Boundaries

1. What concerns do you have about community boundaries?

- Activities that are presently being carried on [by others] are not being enforced in accordance with the Act.. ie 8 km zone – no consultation with communities.
- Communities are bypassed in development permit process. People are not consulted by councils in process. Who controls what inside the boundary? Boundaries should be clearly described. Review on request and redefine all community boundaries. Community and government should consider the following areas – fishing patterns, historical use, trapping patterns, forestry, community planning, quarrying and mining permits, impact on resource utilization

- No consultation presently exists with our communities – The Act says the Minster shall consult with councils on boundary issues within 8 km radius. This is not happening. – The communities should be properly notified as per the Act.
- [Boundaries] not large enough, not sufficient control over common [uses]. No decisions according to the Act.

- Consultation [required] with council for all applications for land use & licence etc within 8 km of boundary line – have two boundary lines unserviced and serviced – limit emergency services to within community boundary due to budget
- Community consultation should include the newly established resource management areas, existing [boundaries] are too small, require legal recognition – no resource areas, [note impact of] TLE, NFA settlements and agreements

- We should have a say in the leasing of land in 8 km [5 mile radius
- Community boundaries should be larger, should be surveyed and legal. Government departments should keep councils informed about plans or development taking place in or around the community.
- Logging company concerns – And rancher(s) get assistance from agriculture for clearing land but we [council] have no say.

- The community boundary is too small, make larger so the community can access the resources and make employment for members.
- Not large enough, not enough local control or co-management

- I feel that government departments should keep communities informed of projects that are going on affecting First Nations and their Northern Affairs neighbours. We have not even been kept informed and the plans to name a large park that touches on the [community] boundaries have not been discussed [with us].

Summary ...

- ***Concern over the value and usefulness of the 8 km zone. Little if any consultation on land uses within this area.***
- ***8km zone should be changed to resource boundary***
- ***Boundaries, as established, do not consider historical land uses.***
- ***Impact of TLE and NFA settlements on communities is not being considered***
- ***Some department programs benefit individuals but are not discussed with councils.***
- ***There needs to be better means of information sharing between communities and departments.***

- A committee, including community representation, should decide on boundary issues.
- Changes to existing boundaries and who decides the changes – not just the minister.
- Satisfied with present regulations re community boundaries
- Many boundaries were created without rhyme or reason. They were usually suggested by a representative from the Department of Northern Affairs, always with the [service] cost factor in mind. The other factor that determined boundaries, for the community, was its location, and how close it was to other townships or reserves.
- The contentious area is the so called eight kilometer zone, known as the resource area or boundary.. This so called boundary or resources area does not exist.
- According to NA Act 9(2), "within eight kilometers from the boundaries of any of them (meaning communities), [regarding] the disposition of crown land the Minister shall consult the community council." This does not mean this area becomes the proposed resource boundaries for the communities.
- NA Act 21.1(3) refers to Change of Boundaries in notice [to the community]
- The boundaries should reflect the resources within 8 km zone outside community boundary.
- All communities should have a boundary. they should all have a resource boundary. The Act now does not follow the consulting process to council, eg treaty land entitlement. Boundary review should have criteria and guidelines.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

- *Boundaries should be clearly defined and legally recognized.*
- *There should continue to be a defined development zone around each community.*
- *Community councils should have authority over development and co-management of resources within the zone.*

You Said ...

Box F – Election process

1. Is the 3-year term sufficient?

- Term should be four years – seems to be the popular way to go.
- Term should be three years.

- Should have four years term with elections in October of each election year, which would allow councils to better plan for budgets. The concern of having elections in February of each year does not do justice to our budget program
- 4 years –[with elections] in October to giver better opportunity for [council input into] budget process –

- yes is ok (x2)

- No
- Yes
- [No because we are] Always asked to submit a 5-year plan

- Yes I think it is sufficient
- No, not enough for the new council to do much for the community, more time is needed like 4 years.
- Should be four years
- Any longer and it could become a cause for complacence and unproductive for the community.
- Yes
- Yes, staggering terms is good, The way it is at present.

Summary ...

- ***There may be some advantages to having a four-year term.***

- ***Consider October elections rather than February.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The council term should be three years, with elections held in October consistent with other local government elections.

Box F - Election Process

2. Should council members continue to have staggered terms, or should all terms expire at the same time?

Summary ...

- ***Generally felt that staggered terms is beneficial.***
- ***Costs of holding staggered election was noted.***
- ***Important to ensure that information from old council is passed on to new council, going to non-staggered terms.***

- Terms should continue to be staggered.
- Overlap has benefit of continuity
- Staggered for the sake of continuity.
- Staggered.
- Staggered is ok
- Yes this allows for continuity
- Yes, for the newly elected council to be informed of the present state of council business
- Yes
- Staggered terms
- I think staggered terms is best
- Should expire at same time because the funding available doesn't cover by-elections.
- Staggered terms benefit council by having carry-over to new council.
- Continual changes in council's attendance automatically results in continuity & staggered terms.
- Expire at the same time
- This would allow for new councillors to have a reference point to work from as well as someone to explain what happened over the past year.
- Staggered terms so some will have knowledge of existing agreements in place.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

There should be staggered terms to allow for continuity on council, so that one-half the council seats would be contested at each election.

You said ...

Box F – Election Process

3. Should non-resident property owners be allowed to vote for council members?

- Non-resident property owners should NOT be able to vote. Feeling each community is very different.
- Keep residency clauses for voting. Cottagers are [not residents].
- [Voters] should have residence in order to vote
- Non-resident should not vote or run for council
- Community members should not be allowed to vote in two elections (bill C31)
- No. Non-resident property owners have based themselves in a different community.
- No
- Yes I think they should
- No, they do not know the people that are running for council.
- Majority of non-resident(s) may be non-resident of Manitoba, e.g. American
- These people would not necessarily have the concerns of the community as a whole. They are more concerned in how the individual can benefit himself. If there was a tax by-law affecting taxes to be paid, property owners could be allowed to vote on tax by-laws.
- Vote where principal residence [is]
- If a property owner is to be affected by any decision the council might make, then they should have the opportunity to vote. The problem is the law states that they can only be on one voter's list.
- We live in a democracy, however, non-resident property owners should not be allowed to vote.
- No, a person must be resident 6 months prior to elections.

Summary ...

- ***Generally felt that non-residents should not have the right to vote for community elections,***
- ***Concern raised about Bill C31 people having the right to vote in two places by virtue of band membership as well as residency.***
- ***Might consider property owners having right to vote on tax by-laws.***
- ***Law only permits name on one voter's list.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

- *Only residents should be allowed to vote for council elections.*
- *Non-resident property owners should not be allowed to vote for members of Council.*

Box F – Election process

4. Should council have authority to appoint the community election officials?

Summary ...

- ***Some benefits to having the Minister make the appointments.***
- ***A feeling that council should be able to make the appointments***
- ***Present system is working, although some improvements might be considered.***

- Council should have the authority to appoint [election officials] as they are basically doing it now. [They] just send to the Minister for [confirmation of] approval.
- Council should appoint election officials.
- Yes, councils should have authority to appoint election officers.
- External [appointments] – potential for bias eliminated
- No –present system ensures the election officials are responsible to another body independent from council.
- Yes, Council should have the right to screen appointees.
- Yes.
- It doesn't really matter – council or the department.
- Yes, they should.
- Yes, they know the people.
- Leave as is
- Election officials should apply to NA and the [NA] office decides to try and keep out the biased appointments.
- Council appointment approved by minister
- What's wrong with the present system for carrying out the election process?
- Yes, by way of advertising
- Council should recommend to minister with criteria and checks.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

- *Councils should have the authority to appoint election officers.*
- *Appointment of election officials should be subject to approval of the Minister.*

You said ...

Box G – Council remuneration

1. Is an honorarium a fair way of recognizing the work done by council members?

- Should be an honorarium based on size of community. Some councils pay mileage, etc, to councillors. Size is a fair way to recognize it.

- Yes
- Extra for more meetings and time spent

- Not fair – compared to first nations and other northern organizations
- [Fair] For some
- Yes, current honorarium criteria is acceptable provided an annual assessment of compensation is adjusted accordingly to reflect each community's needs.

- Honorarium ok but we should have additional funds to cover extra work from time to time.
- Yes. It should reflect the work done by mayor & council & it should be categorized.

- Yes (x3)
- No.
- Yes, but extra for more meetings and extra time put in at office
- Some of the work becomes costly running around doing things. It should be clarified at what point things move from a voluntary act to where there should be some remuneration.
- Base on attendance at meetings
- Yes, but should be non-taxable
- Yes, until we change the present situation and have councillors involved in proper council portfolios, as well as attend the variety of meetings and conference held each year and where proper remuneration can be applied, should remain as honorariums.

Summary ...

- ***Honorariums were generally felt to be a fair way of recognition provided some further improvements could be made.***

- ***Not comparable to [compensation given] by First Nations and other northern organizations.***

- ***Current system does not adequately recognize travel and other incidental costs.***

- ***Does not compare to actual work time involved.***

- ***Should be based on meeting attendance.***

- ***Be [fully] non-taxable***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

An honorarium is a fair way of recognizing work done by members of council.

Box G - Council remuneration

2. Should the amount of honorarium be set by council, or prescribed in the Act?

Summary ...

- ***Council members should have more input into setting remuneration.***
- ***Could be an external body to review and make recommendations***
- ***The Act should outline some limits with flexibility given to councils, according to set criteria.***

- Each council should set their own honorarium because of size of community and they know how much work they do.
- Yes, by council members.
- Council.
- External body with council members sitting.
- Prescribed in the act.
- Prescribed in the act – it would establish a guideline.
- set by council as allowed by budget.
- should be set by council.
- If there is extra funding council should have some input as to what the counselors do as to what their honorarium should be.
- Should be set by council (x3).
- Act, but establish a set of criteria when it is appropriate for other reimbursement..
- I believe this is covered under the NA Act 38(3), (4) and (5).
- Prescribed in the Act based on populations (pro-rated).
- No, but there should be guidelines reflected of their local administrative budget.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The amount of honorarium should be set by Council, within limits prescribed in a regulation.

You Said ...

Box G – Council remuneration

3. Do you have any other suggestions?

- Honorarium should be based on size of community
- Should be an area of budget set aside for mileage, airfare and meetings

- Continue with present system
- Set a scale for amount of honorariums, continue with present system.

- Need a raise!!!
- Honorariums should reflect services provided – the individuals, their geographical location and workloads (portfolios)

- Should be tax free
- Based on population – 0-150, 150-300 & 300 up

- Set a scale for amount of hours put in for meetings
- More emphasis is required on improving the community than amount of honorariums. If an elected person does not show up for more than 3 meetings, a council resolution should be sufficient for removal.
- Honorariums should be paid only if the member attends meetings and if a meeting is missed the reason should be reasonable, ie health, etc.
- No(x2)
- There should be guidelines eg, 1st meeting – meeting per month requirements, per diems for extra meeting. Should reflect the amount of time that is spent on doing the job.
- More authority with then8 km boundary. Share in the resources within the 8km.
- No

Summary ...

- ***Amount should be based on population scales.***
- ***Should reflect amount of work being done by council members.***
- ***Should be tied to attendance at meetings***
- ***Should be mechanism for council to remove for non-attendance.***
- ***Could be higher $.***
- ***Greater tax-free portion.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Councils should develop guidelines for payment of honoraria, taking into account type of services provided and workload.

Box H – Council members' authority and responsibility

1. Are there additional areas of authority council members should have?

Summary ...

- ***Council authority should be related to the services they provide.***
- ***If council appoints election officials, then council should be able to train them.***
- ***There needs to be more training in administration of authority***
- ***Needs to be training respecting by-laws and their enforcement.***
- ***Needs to be training respecting other issues such as housing and land use.***

- Should have authority to sign contracts, dependant on level of government a community is at. E.g. ambulance service, fuel delivery, housing
- [Property] Lots – lack of informational process on lots – assessment process.
- Mayor & Council should provide or appoint local election officials & training of procedures for elections
- [Greater responsibility for] Residents
- More training in administration of authority first – Ability to enact at Council [level] not [depending] through Aboriginal and Northern Affairs.
- Writing and developing by-laws – training is required for administrators and councils
- The ability to enact by-laws and the means to enforce them
- Should have a say in how resources are managed within the community boundary
- [Need to] clarify the extent of council's authority – councils need more information.
- Mayor & council members should be allowed to train & appoint local election officials
- [Expand] only to the authority that council as a whole allows.
- If councils get more money, yes more authority.
- Housing issues and land use outside boundaries
- It should be made very clear where authority does not extend; ie private items are not funded by public money.
- Required training on responsibilities and council (democratic) procedures
- Before councils can accept any additional authority, they have to understand the authority they have, In other words councils need better training and support systems provided.
- No
- More authority with then8 km boundary. Share in the resources within the 8km.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

- ***Councils should have the authority and resources to enforce by-laws which they enact.***
- ***Councils should have authority respecting any activity, in the community and its boundary, affecting community infrastructure and resources.***

You Said ...

Box H – Council member's authority and responsibility

2. Should there be additional responsibilities for council members?

- Councils should have authority (with documented evidence) to remove a councillor. Depends on level of a community.
- Council members should take training as well on election procedures
- Election officials , land use outside boundaries
- Council structure authority for each unique community
- Training is required if taking on additional responsibilities
- Responsible for the enforcement of by-laws
- There should be resources made available to enforce community by-laws
- Council members should be allowed to pursue issues other than municipal services
- Housing, & social service
- To earn their honorariums
- Yes
- If the suggested responsibilities are done in full they require a fair input of time
- No
- Will depend on the community size at present. I feel at present there are a lot of additional responsiiblities (burn out).

Summary ...

- ***Councils need to be able to remove a council member for other behaviour reasons beside non-attendance.***
- ***Council members should be responsible to enforce by-laws***
- ***Needs to be better (and more) training for council members.***
- ***Council should be able to structure itself (and its authority) uniquely to each community.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Councils should be responsible for enforcement of by-laws providing they have the means and resources to do so.

Box H – Council member's authority and responsibility

3. Should there be further limitations on the authority of council members?

Summary ...

- ***There are sufficient limitations on council authority now.***
- ***Need to review/clarify issues regarding council quorum and employment matters [that result in conflict of interest]***

- They are limited enough already. No!
- no limitations on council because they are properly elected to represent the community interests.
- No
- Quorum of council required for employment issue – follow employment standards
- No – due to the uniqueness of all communities.
- should stay as is
- No
- Probably as there are different levels that communities are at.
- No (x3)

The CONSENSUS IS ...

There should be no further limitations on authority of council members.

You Said ...

Box I – Administrative structure

1. Should there be different administrative arrangements for different types of communities?

- If they are going to designate you as separate communities then there has to be different administrative agreements. [Currently it is] not community's decision to be designated differently. There must be competent people in place before the decision is made.
- Communities should have proper training on administration ie- accounting practices. This should reflect uniformity at every council starting from trust communities all the way up to incorporated councils.
- Unity in accounting practices, biweekly payments of annual salaries
- No, for consistency sake
- Different administrative arrangements should reflect the varying needs of communities, there should be flexibility to allow for communities to work towards other administrative arrangements.
- Yes
- They are for us.
- Yes there should be differences
- (see section on types of communities)
- Administrative structure should be decided by council based on workload & council needs and budget.
- Over the years the Department has classified unincorporated communities as follows – Contact communities, communities in trust, Self-administration communities, Block funded communities, Self-reliant communities and eventually Incorporated communities.
- If a system was developed that would allow communities to improve in a positive and progressive manner, both the communities and the department would experience constructive results, and would be able to evaluate their progress as they moved through each phase.
- Yes, depending on their skills and experiences and resources available
- Yes

Summary ...

- ***There needs to be competent personnel in place when a decision is made to change community administrative arrangements.***
- ***There needs to be consistent accounting practices and training in place for all communities.***
- ***Administrative arrangement should be flexible to meet community needs.***
- ***Communities should be able to move from one arrangement to another.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

- ***There should continue to be a basic administrative program but recognizing different administrative levels for different types of communities***
- ***There should be consistent accounting and financial reporting practices for all communities.***

Box I – Administrative structures

2. If so, are the administrative arrangements satisfactory, or should there be other arrangements?

Summary ...

- ***Mixed response on working of current structures.***
- ***Need to consider opportunity for more council input into process.***
- ***Council needs to decide [and be responsible]***

- Current arrangements are working ok.
- [ok provided unity in accounting practices, etc]
- No.
- Satisfactory
- No, I trust the review board that does the capital project budget process.
- Yes, they should be
- Annual salary broken into 26 bi-weekly payments
- Council should decide
- Committee with self-administration – work good
- Satisfactory
- Good

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The current administrative arrangements are satisfactory.

You Said ...

Box J – Community budget process

1. Do you feel residents should have more participation in the budget process?

- Some of the trust & self-admin communities should have more say before residents are asked for participation. Yes, residents should have input through public meeting.
- Council should have workshops on community budget process.
- Councils should have workshops
- No, local involvement by lobby
- Yes, awareness of financial position is key.
- Council should draw up proposed budget, invite community to "town hall" meeting to review budget – get input, then amend budget.
- Yes, community workshops
- Educational workshops
- For our community only the council shows up for the public meetings
- Yes
- Absolutely
- Perhaps you should have a community budget set, then the community is invited to a "town hall" type of meeting to discuss the proposed budget and see if there is any additional input into the budget.
- Operating budget process is fine. Capital budget process needs evaluation and hopefully revision.
- There needs to be more information to council members to explain amount of budget per category and how arrived at.
- What do you mean by more participation?
- No, elected officials can make the decisions.
- Yes there should be more input from local residents.

Summary ...

- ***Councils need to have better training and information on budget process and details first.***
- ***Councils should be prepared to invite residents to town hall meeting.***
- ***Some concern about Capital budget process***
- ***Concern that normally only council members show up.***
- ***There could be general community workshops on budget finances.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Residents should have more input to the budget process, through public meetings.

Box J – Community budget process

3. How often should council hold public meetings to discuss the budget and other financial matters?

Summary ...

- ***There is a need to have greater public participation in council meetings, but frequency needed, is varied***
- ***All council meetings are public, but the public does not often attend.***
- ***How much pressure does the department want to put on communities to hold "public meetings"?***

- Dependent upon community size, [there] should be a minimum of two meetings a year. [Generally] need to have more public meetings.
- Quarterly (X2)
- Quarterly – informal, semi-annual – formal
- There is a need to invite the public perhaps on a seasonal basis to address any concerns that residents or property-owners may have.
- Yearly
- Our community needs more O&M funding to operate efficiently and to cover all our needs.
- Every month
- 4 times a year or whenever needed.
- Semi-annually to 4 times per year, all meetings public
- All meetings in our community are public, however usually it is only the council in attendance unless a specific concern is being addressed at a particular time.
- Quarterly
- Once a year (x2)
- Every 6 months or when required
- At least once or twice a year. This would depend on the time restraints and the pressure the department puts on the community.
- At least once a year. Budget prep, financial reports should be posted for public review.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Councils should hold public meetings quarterly for the discussion of the budget and other financial matters.

You Said ...

Box K – Revenue sources for local government operations

1. Are the current revenue sources about right?

- Depends upon the community and where they stand this year. Smaller communities have had zero growth for past 8 years while everything keeps going up in cost.
- Contact communities not allowed to have revenue banked. Elected communities are revenue adequate. Can make ends meet. At least meet inflation rate. No money for community improvement.
- Rebates should come sooner – timing of release of funds
- Never enough
- Yes
- No
- There is a need to invite the public perhaps on a seasonal basis to address any concerns that residents or property-owners may have
- Yearly
- By more funding for O&M.
- Yes I think they are
- No
- Where there are maintenance items such as infrastructure, ie roads & drainage, there is no real allotment of money except through the Capital Board.
- Operating budget – satisfactory, capital budget – unsatisfactory
- No. Costs have escalated over the years, budgets have not reflected any increase in funding allotments to compensate for the increases to councils overall administration and operating cost.
- Yes
- No, there hasn't been an increase for over 10 years and inflation has gone up every year.

Summary ...

- ***Smaller communities have had zero financial growth even though costs continue to rise.***
- ***Contact status communities are not permitted to bank revenues (funds) while other communities can.***
- ***Insufficient funds for infrastructure maintenance in some areas, except by application to the Capital Board.***
- ***Generally can use more O&M funds.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

It was agreed that more resources are required from the province.

Box K – Revenue sources for local government operations.

2. If not, how should they be changed?

Summary ...

- ***Some view the 15%-20% locally generated funding as a deterrent.***
- ***Should have forums to discuss funding issues.***
- ***Permit councils to operate ventures to raise funds.***
- ***No recognition of some infrastructure in determining community funding.***
- ***Should be [more] community representation at Capital Board meetings***
- ***Review commitment and cash allotments provided to different regions and communities.***

- Some communities can't afford additional fees or taxes. Very hard for people to pay community service fees. 15% to raise towards budget is an example. A deterrent to communities who are interested in self-reliance.
- No. You can only tax or charge user fees to a certain point.
- local public awareness on funding. – 20% requirement for locally raised. – Communities should have public meetings on this issue along with department staff.
- local public concerns – public meetings including staff
- Ok
- There should be forums to discuss funding issues, etc.
- Special taxes, fund raising, user fees
- Not so much as raising taxes but we should be allowed to pursue council funded or operated ventures
- Probably not as we don't have the added means & facilities.
- Yes
- More funds
- More money never hurts
- Recognition of existing infrastructure, such as roads, drainage and bridges require on going maintenance in order to have effectiveness. What is the point of spending this money in the first place if you do not have the funds to upkeep them afterwards – there should be O&M< for infrastructure.
- Representation from a community is required at capital budget meetings
- The government has to review its commitment to the communities and re-evaluate the cash allotments that are provided to different regions and communities.
- All revenue generating sources are being used.
- Inflation rate, pay increases for employees, training, economic development.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

The Department of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs should be required annually to review and ensure the adequacy of its funding commitment to northern communities with regard to:

- ***Consumer price index***
- ***Health and safety, e.g. water plants***
- ***Impact of changes in environmental regulations***
- ***Other influences on local government spending.***

You Said ...

Box K – Revenue sources for local government operations.

3. Do you think your community could raise more monies for community services by additional special taxes, user fees, or other means?

- Yes council should be able to set own mill rate. Each council knows what their community can pay.
- Yes, councils should be allowed to raise taxes or user fees, especially if you're pursuing incorporation or local self-government.
- Yes, for property & management
- No taxing due to limited workforce, ie high numbers of residents on social assistance. Isolation hinders economic activities – limited resources.
- Yes (x2
- Yes (x2)
- Property management
- We could raise other monies through fund raising or special taxes – but most residents would be strongly opposed to an increased taxes.
- Sure, but why is this necessary?
- Charge for other communities using our water
- This is a very delicate area. Where some communities have both businesses and population to draw additional monies from, other communities don't have that luxury.
- Most employment programs offered to communities are cost sharing programs, at present it is difficult to participate in these opportunities because the community is unable to raise their portion of the expenses. With that in mind, how does the government expect communities to raise funds to operate the community?
- Bicycle licenses
- No., communities already pay for community services.

Summary ...

- ***Councils should be able to set their own mill rates.***
- ***Some areas may not be able to raise additional funds.***
- ***Most employment and some infrastructure programs require the community to cost share. Often this is not possible, therefore the community may not be able to take advantage of such programs.***
- ***We need to be able to collect for services provided to other communities...***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Not all communities are capable of raising more revenues by taxes and user fees. The provincial government should allow northern communities to take advantage of new opportunities by sharing in resource revenues.

Box K– Revenue sources for local government operations.

4. Do you think each community council should be able to set its own level of taxation by increasing or decreasing the mill rate?

Summary ...

- ***Generally yes, each community should be able to set own mill rate.***
- ***May require consultation.***

- No. [only] Incorporated community [should] set its own mill rate.
- Needs differ between north and south.
- Yes, should set own levels of taxation
- Yes
- Yes
- [no response]
- No (x2)
- Yes, with consultation.
- No, should be set through Province
- Yes, what is the process for tax collection for crown land home owners. Our council at present have a lot of residents in arrears and the community is being billed on a short fall in school taxes.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

No consensus was reached on this statement.

You Said ...

Box L – Services provided by local government

1. Are there other municipal services, not in the list, that you feel should be delivered by the community?

- The community should administer the CMHC housing program in their communities, not MMF.
- No.
- Not on list is community campground – generally satisfied with list
- All municipal services listed should be provided by the communities and the funding must be provided to enable the communities to provide those services. – Garbage collection
- Suburban ambulances, nursing homes for each community, beautification projects, group members had personal lists that differed considerably.
- No. Should be kept open for future review
- $ for Public Works – custodian, purchasing of constable vehicle & equipment, community grader & operator, gravel trucks
- Ambulance services should be included no matter what size your community is.
- Beaver control
- veterinary contribution to the local Vet Board is matched by the Provincial Government.
- council should be concerned with the general quality of life of local residents & should work with other local authorities in developing partnership & an improved community.
- It's not what is not on the list, its making what is on the list available to communities.
- Constable, animal control officer
- Housing, economic development, health

Summary ...

- ***CMHC Housing program***
- ***Community campgrounds***
- ***Ambulance services, care homes***
- ***Community beautification***
- ***Public works equipment such as grader, gravel trucks etc***
- ***Beaver Control***
- ***Veterinary program support***
- ***Quality of life issues***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Communities should be allowed to deliver economic development services with more health and social programs, such as ambulance services and housing.

Box L

2. Are there services, which you would suggest be removed from this list?

Summary ...

- ***No removals***
- ***Continue basic & essential services.***

- No removals
- No. basic & essential services
- No
- No (x2)
- All [are] acceptable
- No
- No(x2)

The CONSENSUS IS ...

No services should be removed from the list.

You Said ...

Box L

2. Should there be different services for different communities?

- Different communities have different needs based on sizes, locations, etc.
- No. Needs are all the same. We should try to get everyone up to the same level of services.
- The system seems to account for population needs
- No. Services should be based on needs as determined by the community and [as] the community grows the needs grow so flexibility allows the community to grow/meet the needs
- Yes, some services different levels
- Yes. Answer based on where situated or age categories
- Based on population
- Yes
- As the needs of the community vary, the needs for service should be reflected for that community.
- If the ultimate goal of the department is to have all communities incorporated, it would be essential that they provide all the needed services to allow this to happen. Without a firm foundation (services) established in the community it puts into question if the community would ever be ready for incorporation.
- Yes, depending on their need
- Yes, based on infrastructure and budgets

Summary ...

- ***Different communities require same services but to different levels.***
- ***Service levels should reflect community populations and needs.***
- ***Service levels should lead towards incorporation.***

The CONSENSUS IS....

There should not be different services ; there could, however, be different levels of services based on needs.

Box L

4. Are there other non-municipal services, which you feel your community should be involved with?

Summary ...

- ***Local housing needs***
- ***Cellular phone service***
- ***Economic development opportunities***
- ***Social services***
- ***Community input on commercial resource operations within boundary, e.g. forestry.***
- ***Fish hatchery***

- No.
- Local housing needs. Cellular phone service
- Yes, there should be others, council should be allowed to run businesses.
- Economic development – developing business plan, economic development officer, housing, personal care home
- Yes. We want input on outside forestry operation or any kind of operations.
- Social services, Housing, Economic Development
- I do not feel that communities [should be] involved in private matters.
- Provide for a fish hatchery
- No
- Same as box L1

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Communities should be involved with economic development, housing, and administration of health and social service programs.

You Said ...

Box M – Economic Development

1. In your opinion, how should community councils be involved with economic development?

- Councils can't get in the business (except incorporated communities) but should be discussed at council meetings. Potential for tourism
- Providing information to appropriate resources, lending agencies. Provide letters of support, if in best interest of community. Community council should be more of a supportive advisory group. Community council should not be operating a business.

- Councils should have direct involvement
- Councils support getting established – promote, bring jobs, financial if possible

- Advisory services, hire an economic development officer, community council be directly involved in establishing businesses when the opportunity arises
- Yes, establish community development corps, loaning agencies

- Council should be involved – why have to be incorporated when every council should raise funds
- Council to be able to invest with existing administration dollars for community incentives.
- Those companies operating within our eight-kilometer boundaries should have their royalties turned over to our local councils – council being able to participate in establishing local development corporation.

- Council's input should be appreciated as they know their community
- Yes, by having regular meetings
- They should be involved in economic development.
- Support new enterprises in getting established in business, financial support depends on ....
- If it is possible to increase work [jobs] in the community. Can only benefit the community as a whole.
- A development corporation should be formed if deemed desirable
- Do feasibility studies to determine best possible viable ways to develop an economy in a particular community, e.g., logging & lumber, fish hatchery
- Should not be [involved]

Summary ...

- ***Should be greater opportunity for councils to participate in economic development – discussion, council support, etc.***
- ***Hire economic development officer***
- ***Council should be advisory but not operate business.***
- ***Council should receive royalties for resources used within 8 km zone***
- ***Council should be able to be directly involved in establishing new enterprises***
- ***Development corporations***
- ***Councils should do more feasibility studies***

- Every community is interested in economic development, the problem is that a number of communities lack the ways and means to become, not only self-reliant, but involved in the development that is already in progress around their communities. There are new opportunities presenting themselves in the future and the community needs to be better prepared for these economic ventures. This means the department needs to prepare to provide the necessary support and support systems to allow the communities to grow and take advantage of and each and every opportunity that presents itself.
- Provide economic development officer
- Yes, large communities to [have] boards to [review] proposals for growth/businesses in local communities.

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Community councils should be able to become involved in economic development by the department providing resources for:

- ***Forming community development corporations;***
- ***Hiring economic development officers;***
- ***Participation in regional development initiatives.***

You Said ...

Box N – Conflict

1. In your opinion, what sorts of circumstances may be considered a conflict of interest?

- There is definitely a conflict [of interest] in projects that come up in communities such as tenders, student jobs selection (summer), council staff, and community jobs.
- Council running a business. Potential job opportunities to family members. Council having a business & bidding on contracts. Nepotism.
- example – election officials directly related to candidate – should not have been involved in process. – Should train local election officials then Council can have the option in selecting proper candidates to run elections to avoid conflicts.
- Influence public spending to benefit oneself
- refer to operational manual of municipal act – members of council who are employed by neighbouring first nations.
- Nepotism is a gray area
- More than one person that is from the same household benefiting from council
- When you are directly benefiting, depending on population community/relations
- For people living outside of area.
- When member of council is helping a family member too much.
- The influence of spending public funds to benefit oneself. When you benefit directly from the decisions made.
- Conflict of interest arises when you receive a direct or indirect benefit to a member of council from a job or undertaking done by council.
- Anything that will enhance the person/family personal gain
- Enforcement of existing guidelines in the problem [area]
- Council member promoting higher wages for family member
- Voting on agenda when councillor has an interest in same.
- See the Municipal Act procedures manual . it sets out a series of legal requirements defining the conflict of interest regulation
- Where a concillor/mayor participates in a discussion on issues that affect them. They could benefit from the result.
- Regulation set good/council should at least once a year have workshop on this issue by department.

Summary ...

- ***Because of small size of communities there is often potential conflict in student summer hiring.***
- ***Potential conflict in council running businesses.***
- ***Potential conflict when election official is related to candidates.***
- ***Nepotism.***
- ***Consider what can be used from The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Conflict of interest could arise through a member of council receiving direct benefit from:

- ***Hiring practices;***
- ***Awarding of contracts;***
- ***Spending decisions.***

Box N

2. Should the rules of conflict of interest be included in the Act?

Summary...

- ***Need established guidelines, appeal procedures, etc to make the system work.***
- ***Needs to be clearly spelled out, such as in a manual.***
- ***Requires enforcement.***
- ***Should be legislated.***

- Yes. A lot of councils are in conflict themselves so need an outside influence to set down the rules.
- No. Established guideline. Process of appeals, should go under Policy & procedures [as] easier to change policy than change the Act.
- Yes, included in the Act
- operational manual of municipal act should be considered as part of northern affairs act.
- Yes
- Definitely
- Yes, but it should be defined more clearly.
- Yes (x3)
- What good would it do if enforcement does not occur?

The CONSENSUS IS ...

Rules or guidelines on conflict of interest should be set out in a supporting document.

You Said ...

Box O – Other issues

What other issues would you like to have considered as part of this review?

- Can Bill C31 vote in Northern Affairs election and on the reserve (Vote in two places)? Funding goes to First Nations for projects and jobs don't go to the community. Treaty people living in Northern Affairs communities are in limbo. Don't fall under anyone's jurisdiction.
- Health and Transportation, Employee Harassment/Abuse, Housing, On-going training.

- The Northern Affairs Act should have a better reflection to unincorporated councils as is right now the Act refers mostly to incorporated councils.

- All other acts referred to in the northern affairs act should be considered part of the review - by-laws and the development of by-laws should be part of the review process.

- More involvement with Minister & community council as part of this review
- Housing – social services – economic development – public works – eight kilometer corporation – operating community workshops on the northern affairs act – community workshops on budget for new mayor & council elected
- Home care for the elderly
- Council should allow more people to respond to invitation dealing with issues raised by others (e.g. Health, Hydro etc) that would benefit the community - $ are a limit sometimes

- Let each community decide what is best for them.
- Councils shouldn't be forced to take part in Self-Reliance if not ready. Have all employees trained properly first to understand and in their jobs.
- Clearer definition of rules regarding residency in the election part of the act.
- Clarification by the department at workshops where all elected persons are present concerning Robert's rules of order & northern affairs guidelines.
- A criteria for anyone nominated for council
- Councillor missing three or four meetings in a row should not be paid, especially if only one meeting held a month.
- The Northern affairs Act makes reference to other provincial acts which have a significant effect upon the communities (Acts listed) These should all be considered as part of the review system.

Summary ...

- ***Bill C31 people and voting in two places.***
- ***Clearer residency rules for elections.***
- ***Funding going to first Nations but no benefit to communities.***
- ***Health Services and medical transportation.***
- ***Employee Harassment.***
- ***Employee training and qualifications.***
- ***The Act should better reflect the non-incorporated councils and their situation.***
- ***Related legislation should be reviewed.***
- ***Provision of home care and care homes.***
- ***Assist councils to deal with broader issues such as health, hydro, etc.***

- The Northern Affairs Act makes reference to community by-laws. This is a topic that is not totally understood or followed in many of the communities. This is another area that should be part of the review process.
- None, satisfied with existing Act..
- Review the whole taxation department, I would have liked a copy of the Act with this package. The act would be relevant only to Northern Affairs and not municipalities.

- ***Community by-laws and enforcement***
- ***More council member training***

The CONSENSUS IS ...

There are additional areas, which may be beyond the scope of this review, which the Department should review with community input. Such as:

- *Bill C31 respecting elections;*
- *Department responsibility for training councils, by-law training, training regarding property taxation, and education respecting other legislaiton affecting the communities.*
- *More provincial doallrs, both Operation & Maintenance, and Capital.*
- *Enforcement and collection of user charges from residents and neighbouring communities*
- *VLT revenues should be considered as locally generated revenues.*